

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942649
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0035
(916) 319-2035
FAX (916) 319-2135

DISTRICT OFFICES
101 W. ANAPAMU STREET, SUITE A
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101
(805) 564-1649
FAX (805) 564-1651
721 E. SANTA CLARA STREET, SUITE 25
VENTURA, CA 93001
(805) 648-9943
FAX (805) 648-9946

Assembly California Legislature

HANNAH-BETH JACKSON
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTY-FIFTH DISTRICT
CHAIR, NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

COMMITTEES
BUDGET
HIGHER EDUCATION
JOBS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND THE ECONOMY
JUDICIARY
JOINT COMMITTEES
LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
THE ARTS
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE
SELECT COMMITTEES
CHAIR, COASTAL PROTECTION
CO-CHAIR, TITLE IX
STATE BOARDS
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

November 4, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morobito:

I am writing in support of the Community Environmental Council's request for a \$40,000 grant that will fund engineering designs, environmental documentation and permit applications for the removal of three barriers to fish passage on Gobernador Creek in Santa Barbara County.

Gobernador Creek is part of the Carpinteria Creek watershed, which is one of the largest on the county's south coast and may offer our best opportunity for restoring significant runs of the endangered southern California steelhead. California Coastal Conservancy's grant to the CEC will help finalize the designs and studies on three projects along Gobernador Creek that will replace concrete culverts and other barriers with bridges enabling fish passage.

This project fits in with other efforts underway both upstream and downstream to remove or modify other fish passage barriers in the Carpinteria Creek watershed. CEC is involved in all of these efforts and plans to continue working with the Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition and landowners to ensure that eventually all barriers are removed.

I hope the Conservancy will give favorable consideration to this grant request, which will put the region one step closer to the ultimate goal of reopening the entire Carpinteria Creek watershed to Southern steelhead.

Very truly yours,


Hannah-Beth Jackson
Assemblymember, 35th District

Cc: Mauricio Gomez

HBJ: jra



EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

NAOMI SCHWARTZ
Supervisor First District

SALUD CARBAJAL
Executive Staff Assistant

MARY ELLEN WYLIE
Administrative Assistant

ERIC FRIEDMAN
Administrative Assistant



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
105 East Annapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101
Telephone: (805) 568-2186
FAX: (805) 568-2534
E-mail:
nschwartz@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

November 3, 2004

Dear Mr. Paul Morabito
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
c/o Mary Travis

Dear Chair Morabito,

I am writing in support of the Community Environmental Council's request for funding to assist in removing steelhead barriers throughout Gobernador Creek in Carpinteria.

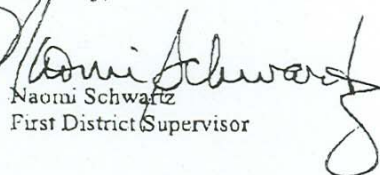
Gobernador Creek is part of the Carpinteria Creek Watershed, which is one of the largest watersheds in the South Coast of Santa Barbara County. This watershed has significant potential to restore endangered Southern California Steelhead runs due to its perennial flows, ideal high quality trout habitat, and minimal channeling.

Over the last three years the CEC has been working with the Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition to help restore steelhead fish passage and habitat throughout the watershed. One focus has been to contact landowners to get their support for removal of existing fish barriers. This past spring two private landowners, who together have three severe steelhead barriers on Gobernador Creek, agreed to work with CEC on plans for fish passage improvement to their property.

In the effort to implement the proposed removal of these barriers, the CEC has obtained grant funding from the California Department of Fish and Game and the Wendy P. McCaw Foundation for planning and design work. However, the expected cost will exceed the amount of funding the CEC has received. With an additional grant of \$40,000 from the State Coastal Conservancy, the CEC would be able to prepare final designs for both projects, as well as environmental documentation and permit applications.

Your support of the CEC's request will help to make the community based effort to restore the Carpinteria Creek Watershed habitat and steelhead population a success. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Naomi Schwartz
First District Supervisor

Printed on Recycled Paper

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - THE RESOURCES AGENCY

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

4665 Lampson Avenue, Suite C
Los Alamitos Ca 90720
(562)342-7188/(562)342-7153 (fax)



November 5, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito
Chair, California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, California 94612

Santa Barbara County Fish Passage Design Project

Dear Mr. Morabito,

On behalf of the Department of Fish and Game's South Coast Region (Department), I am writing in support of a grant proposal submitted to your agency by the Community Environmental Council (CEC). The CEC is seeking funding for its much needed fish passage design project, which has the potential to positively effect the recovery of steelhead trout in Santa Barbara County. Santa Barbara County is known to support a healthy population of the southern steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), a federally endangered species, in its many coastal streams. The long term survival of the population is threatened by human-induced alterations to the coastal watersheds in Santa Barbara County. The primary limiting factor is the presence of barriers to fish passage, which prevent steelhead from reaching their historical spawning and rearing habitat in the coastal watersheds.

It is the Department's opinion that most of the watersheds within Santa Barbara County can be rehabilitated by removing or modifying one or two key passage barriers within each watershed. The development of prepared engineering design, environmental documentation and permitting for several priority fish passage projects has the potential to speed up the restoration of several county streams. In addition this effort will improve the competitiveness (fundability) of the implementation phase for these projects should they be submitted to other granting agencies including the Department's Fisheries Restoration Grant Program.

Without immediate funding for the proposed project, design and implementation of fish passage restoration projects will be delayed due to funding and personnel constraints. This delay will severely impact recovery efforts for southern steelhead as well as other aquatic species impacted by barriers within coastal streams in Santa Barbara County. The Department recommends your agency's approval of the Community Environmental Council's request for funding.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (562)342-7186.

Sincerely,

Mary L. Larson
Senior Fisheries Biologist Specialist

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



Santa Barbara County Water Resources
A Division of Santa Barbara County Public Works Department
Phillip M. Demery, Director
123 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara CA 93101
(805) 568-3440

November 4, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy Board
11th Floor, 1330 Broadway
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in support of the staff recommendation to provide up to \$40,000 to the Community Environmental Council (CEC) to prepare engineering designs, environmental documentation, and permit applications for the removal of three barriers to fish passage on Gobernador Creek in Santa Barbara County. This project complements County efforts in the Carpinteria Creek watershed, to which Gobernador Creek is a tributary.

The Carpinteria Creek watershed has been identified as the south coast's best opportunity for restoring significant runs of the endangered southern California steelhead. The County is currently involved in efforts to develop a watershed plan for the area, and various restoration projects in the watershed, under the auspices of the Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition.

In addition, the County has funding from the Coastal Conservancy to implement the engineering design and permitting for fish passage areas on the south coast of Santa Barbara County. Through an intensive stakeholder process, Carpinteria Creek was targeted as the top priority watershed for these projects. It was chosen because this watershed presents the best opportunity locally to open up an entire watershed to steelhead passage. The completion of the design projects on Gobernador Creek will ensure that this effort is successful.

Over the past few years, the County has worked extensively with the CEC on watershed planning and restoration projects. We are confident that they will be successful with these projects on Gobernador Creek, and together our projects in the Carpinteria Creek

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

watershed will create a significant milestone for steelhead recovery in the south coast region of Santa Barbara County.

Please feel free to contact me at (805) 568-3546 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Almy
Manager, Santa Barbara County Water Agency

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

CITY of CARPINTERIA, CALIFORNIA

5775 CARPINTERIA AVENUE • CARPINTERIA, CA 93013-2697
(805) 684-5405 EXT. 449 • FAX (805) 684-5304 • www.ci.carpinteria.ca.us



November 10, 2004

Members of the City Council
Richard Weinberg - Mayor
Donna Jordan - Vice Mayor
Michael Ledbetter
J. Bradley Stein
Greg Gandrud

Paul Morabito
Board Chair of State Coastal Conservancy
C/o Mary Travis
11th Floor, 1330 Broadway
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito:

The City of Carpinteria is in support of the grant request made by the Community Environmental Council (CEC) for eliminating three fish barriers on Gobernador Creek.

The City of Carpinteria has a comprehensive creek protection program that includes improving the habitat value of the Carpinteria Creek as a primary objective. However, unless barriers to fish passage are removed, the over summer habitat areas of steelhead will remain inaccessible. Carpinteria and Gobernador Creeks are a critical steelhead habitat area with high potential for steelhead recovery if fish barriers are removed. The CEC Gobernador Creek Project is consistent with the City's objectives and will enhance the steelhead population in Carpinteria Creek, a tributary of Gobernador Creek..

The California Coastal Conservancy's favorable consideration of the grant request is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Matthew Roberts, Director
Parks & Recreation

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition
930 Miramonte Dr.
Santa Barbara, CA 93109
(805) 963-0583 Ext. 111

November 8, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chair
C/O Mary Travis
California State Coastal Conservancy Board
11th Floor, 1330 Broadway
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito,

I am writing on behalf of the Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition (CCWC) in support of the staff recommendation to provide up to \$40,000 to the Community Environmental Council to prepare engineering designs, environmental documentation and permit applications for the removal of fish barriers on Gobernador Creek, a tributary of Carpinteria Creek, in Carpinteria, California. For the past three years, the CCWC has been involved in the planning of fish barrier removal projects, bank stabilization projects and native plant restoration efforts along Carpinteria Creek and we feel this project fits within our goals for the restoration of Carpinteria Creek.

The efforts undertaken by the Community Environmental Council along Carpinteria Creek are very noteworthy in that they should open up an entire watershed for Steelhead migration. Carpinteria Creek once supported large numbers of Steelhead trout and we would love to see it support them again especially since Steelhead trout are an endangered species.

The CEC and the CCWC recently held our 3rd annual BBQ and we were very impressed by the number of people in attendance from the Carpinteria Creek watershed as well as the City of Carpinteria. It is clear to us that the efforts to restore Carpinteria Creek are becoming widespread in our town. Having the opportunity to educate the community about the importance of our efforts is something we feel is driving the efforts by the CEC.

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

With the requested funds the CEC will be close to restoring a large portion of the watershed to more natural conditions and we hope you will allow for one of our goals to become a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Gomez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mauricio Gomez

Chair – Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition